

# The Woman's Page of the Times-Dispatch

## Mutual Helpfulness the Foundation of Marriage

Women are often criticized for not being better homemakers and home-keepers. Perhaps if husbands realized that housekeeping, instead of being a trifling affair, represents an important profession in itself, and required a high order of administrative talent on the part of a wife, there might be greater achievement on her behalf and less reasonable ground of complaint on that of mankind.

The lack of sympathetic appreciation and of the spirit of mutual helpfulness, that should form the foundation of happy married life, is the cause of much of the unhappiness of to-day about the lack of home love and home spirit among American women. If a woman, sometimes, at the end of a trying day, voices to her husband the weariness and discouragement which are the outcome of it, she will, often, then otherwise, be met with the query: "Why, what have you to worry and fret over? You have no business responsibilities and cares, just your children and your comfortable home to look after. Suppose you had what I have to contend with; then you might complain!"

**Belittles Woman's Work.**  
Such a speech as this is calculated, not alone to discourage a woman, but to belittle her work in her own eyes and to make her feel that only in the busy world outside the narrow sphere in which she moves is there work that is worth while, something that she might do, if she just had a chance. A husband should make it his business to understand the nature and the scope of his wife's manifold occupations, and render her tribute earned, instead of depreciation, when she deserves it. He should help her to feel that, while her duties are different in their nature from his own, they are equally as important in their bearing upon the welfare and happiness of society. He should encourage all her confidences and explain away her perplexities, as far as possible. In short, he ought to enable her to feel his strength of purpose supporting her weakness and his guiding hand controlling and shaping circumstances, so as to surmount many difficulties out of her way.

**Companionship of Interests.**  
A man should let his wife know that she is an inspiration and a help to him by taking her into partnership with him and discussing monetary and other interests with her from an intelligent standpoint, so that if it should become necessary for the wife to look after payments on property, life insurance, taxes or investments, she may be qualified from instruction and training to do so.

The day is past when men are to be meekly given into by women, when women have no ideas beyond those which are imposed on them ready-made by men. Women who are married frequently possess mental powers and decided inclinations of their own which they do not intend to surrender at another's bidding. Therefore, from the beginning of married life, the husband as the physically stronger half, should set the example of concession and of respectful consideration, so essential to promote harmony and happiness between wedded lovers.

**Should Respect Wife's Opinions.**  
A husband should never discredit his wife's opinions and so impede the natural progress forward of her intelligence and her development. A man does not necessarily always agree with his wife, but he can at least encourage her in the expression of what she thinks and in belief and confidence in herself, as an entity worthy of his respect and that of the world around her. He can make her feel that her progress mentally and intellectually is a life growth, and that he more than any one else rejoices that in marriage, and by his help, she is doubly free to enter upon her inheritance.

VIRGINIA WESTOVER.

## A Happy Combination

The lingerie dress of the season, straight from Paris, is lace and embroidery in a happy combination. It is insertion and tulle, rather than linen or batiste. Elaboration has reached its height in these diaphanous gowns, and ribbon has run riot throughout their entire surfaces wherever there is space to let it in.

Some of these beautiful creations, fresh from the hands of the makers, show only one kind of lace, half of it having been dyed butter color or a coffee or tea tone.

On the thinnest of the open embroidery frocks the underlay is a white wash net, and this is supposed to sufficiently conceal the lingerie underwear, so that a silk slip is unnecessary.

There is no limit to the different kinds of lace used in the construction of some of these lingerie frocks. Heavy lace motifs are cut from all-overs, or from strips with a running design, and applied as a wide Valenciennes set between heavier lace insertions.

## Folds and Flounces.

Folds of bias doubled not edge deep lace flounces to ornament lingerie gowns and the plain white materials, when they are in evidence on these gowns, are gauffered or ironed into pleats.

Silk platings in cherry color are used to edge the sleeves of Paris-made cotton frocks of the lingerie type, and cherry-colored rosettes are made of eight long loops of ribbon, each diverging from the centre of the rosette, and each loop knotted in its middle.

Tonettes of knife-pleated ribbon, too, are shirred closely together, with lace introduced into their folds.

Flowers play a most conspicuous part on the garden party frock, and in "sunny France" this is a favorite little garment.

Delicate organdie in inconspicuous design is made elaborate by the addition of tiny flowers, artificial or hand-made, and they are frequently festooned or sewed on in little tight bunches, to provide color or to weight down a flounce or a tunic, a bertha or a sleeve cap.

The ash is an ever-present necessity now, in the mind of the French woman. She holds it in place upon the skirt, or round the bodice of many embroidered models, the hand-finished plots are elongated buttonholes, and the bias silk girdle is almost as prominent on this distinctly summery frock as the season's own special cherry and ribbon.

## New Touches on Blouse

The maker of the summer blouse will welcome, even now, the last new touches on these pretty and useful garments, whether in white or in color. There is always to be spotted, by the all-seeing eye of the expert, some latest device for the further decoration of each separate garment for women.

Coronation braid is now applied upon a strip of cluny lace forming the front of the finely tucked linen blouse. Begin with two lengths of braid, sew them fast at the centre of the lace stripe under the collarband. Criss-cross them down the front in a diamond pattern, and repeat the decoration on the collar and cuff of lace.

Black, white and mulberry-colored mercerized cotton is used in one conventional design on the front blouse pleat of a fancy white shirtwaist.

## The Easter Robin.

Alexander F. Chamberlain tells a sweet legend of the Greek Church, regarding the Easter robin. He says that our Lord used to feed the robins round His mother's door, when a boy; moreover, that the robin never left the sepulchre till the Resurrection, and, at the Ascension, joined in the angels' song.

Another popular story, however, relates that when Christ was on His way to Calvary, toiling beneath the burden of the cross, the robin, in its kindness, plucked a thorn from the crown that oppressed His brow, and the blood of the divine martyr dyed the breast of the bird, which ever since has borne the insignia of its service or love.

Above all things, the husband should never forget that he is his wife's sweetheart and her admirer always. No flattery is so sweet in the ears of a wife, no cure so certain for fatigue and disheartenment, as the assurance from her husband that she is ten times prettier as matron than as maid, that he is glad she has never left off, like many other women, the wearing of pretty gowns and hats, and of practicing all the specially womanly arts which keep her fresh and dainty in the eyes of all who see her. And the husband-lover who does not discontinue his practice of bringing to his wife the flowers which were a regular gift to his sweetheart, who does not overlook the birthday and anniversary trinket, will be rewarded with something sweeter than anything remembered from his betrothal period.



CHARMING EVENING GOWNS OF EXQUISITE FABRICS.

## Society Leaders and Women Voters in Denver and Colorado

The man whose strings proved to match the capital city of the State of Colorado and a city in which the woman problem is enormous and most interesting, whatever is written concerning Denver's social and club life as related to its femininity is of importance to womanhood in other parts of the United States, they being on the qui vive to see how the voting privilege affects the Denver and Colorado sisterhood.

In making observations and comments, it should be noted by them that Denver women live mostly in their own homes, the apartment house feature being practically unknown to Denverites, and quite outside the line of their tastes and ambitions. The Denver woman does not need to worry over the question of where she shall go in summer, either, for the climate of her home city is ideal during that season.

In no other American metropolis is there a stronger manifestation of the club spirit among women than in Denver, where the Woman's Club has a stunning home on Glenarm Street. Mrs. Sarah Platt Decker, president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, and former president of the National Federation, is famous as the founder of the new Woman's party in Colorado. Mrs. Decker does not personally embody the generally accepted idea of the woman politician. She is not only capable and possessed of rare executive ability, but is both good looking and well dressed. She is the wife of Judge Decker, of Denver, and headed the movement which re-elected Judge Ben B. Lindsey on an independent ticket.

Mrs. James B. Belford, who has retired from active club work, is considered one of the most intellectual women in Denver and Colorado. Mrs. Alva Lattery, of Denver, is the only woman member of the State Legislature. The society leader of Denver is Mrs. Crawford Hill, who has been presented at the court of St. James. Before her marriage, Mrs. Hill was a belle in Memphis, Tenn., and is typical Southern as to her loyal personality and her hospitable methods of entertainment. Smart society women in Denver enjoy motoring and bridge more than they do dancing, which is only mildly fashionable. Theatricals have splendid support and theatre parties, followed by supper and bridge after the play in some exclusive home, is considered to be quite the thing.

The good understanding between the Denver woman voter and Mayor

Speer, of that city, is well illustrated by a story told in the current issue of Woman's Home Companion. It says: "During the spring election of 1908, when Mayor Speer was a candidate to succeed himself, an opposition political canvasser in the Cherry Creek District set about trying to win the vote of an Irish woman for Phelps, his mayoralty candidate."

"Phelps, Phelps," she repeated, the name in her Irish brogue. "Sure now, and will yez tell me what Phelps has ever done for the beautiful city of Denver? Can yez answer me that, now?"

"And can you tell me what Speer has ever done?" the canvasser answered, with some heat. "I've never seen anything he's done for the morals of Denver or for the women either." "I ain't after sayin' nothin' about what Bob Speer's done for the morals or for the women," she answered. "I'm too busy to be meddlin' with either. But I do know before he was elected our Mayor I lived on a dump, so I did, and now I'm living on a billy-veld, thank yez, and best put that in yez pipe and smoke it."

The allusions made by the Irish woman to the "dump" and the "billy-veld" may be explained by the fact that Cherry Creek flows through a section of Denver, and that its banks have been transformed from being dumping grounds for refuse to parkways and boulevards by Mayor Speer, who also built dams, producing a series of cascades in the stream and changing it from an unsightly nuisance to a thing of "joy and beauty."

So, because the Mayor represents the strong spirit of municipal improvement and wishes, above everything else, to render Denver one of the most beautiful cities in America, the women stand for him when election day comes round.

CONSTANCE.

**Easteride Dance.**  
Ellen Morrison, in the Woman's Home Companion for March, gives the following clever idea for an Easteride dance:

A pretty feature for an Easter-time dance provided colored Easter bonnets for each lady of the company. The bonnets were home-made millinery in crepe paper of different colors on the order of universally becoming "poke." The bonnets were displayed on an odd time millinery "tree," and each lady selected one. The men in an adjoining room selected each a pair of strings in color a bonnet presented them to pale shades

the wearer of it, and claimed her as his partner for the cotillion. When it is desired to distribute some pretty souvenirs, the strings could be of ribbon with the date and the hostess' name in gilt letters.

Another way to get up the same attractive feature would be to attach a price tag to each bit of headgear and give each man so many beans or counters with which to bid in the one that most appeals to his fancy. Each girl then accepts for her partner for the cotillion the man whose choice in millinery she approves. Some young man with a ready wit and a clever way of expressing himself should be the auctioneer. If there is no cotillion arranged, plan to have a Virginia reel, a waltz quadrille about midway the program, and choose partners for it by either of the ways just described. A simple but unique feature of this sort makes a charming break in the usual monotonous waltz-two-step program of the average small dance. The lady may be easily made beforehand by half a dozen of the girls.

**Easter Eve in Russia.**  
What Christmas and New Year's gifts are to the English and French, Easter gifts are to the Russians. At Easter the Russians not only celebrate the miraculous resurrection of the Son of God, but the resurrection of the whole earth, and its release from the enthrallment of winter. Easter eve is the most solemn and general festival of the year in Russia. Every church is ablaze for midnight mass, candles burn before shrines and icons, and tapers are borne by each member of vast congregations.

Military and state officials are in full uniform, women and civilians in evening dress and people generally in holiday attire. After the midnight benediction comes the blessing by the priests of the "paska," a loaf of bread, a pyramid of curds and an egg, the last named being an emblem of the resurrection. The bread is carried home and placed by the worshippers on the Easter breakfast table.

**Colored Squares.**  
Another popular new candy is known as "squares." This is brightly colored transparent cubes about the size of a caramel, and comes in pink, yellow, violet or green. Arranged on a dainty non-bonniere, also, the "squares" make a striking addition to the table scheme.

Delightful, too, for a children's party or for a luncheon where a marine motif is carried out, are taffy candies shaped like tiny cookie ships in different colors.

## Sleep and Eat Well

It seems remarkable in these days that any one should wish to gain in weight, yet there are still clamorers after flesh.

You who would be fat should sleep well, eat well and look at life on the bright side. There are stout women who are warriors, and warlike who are jolly as crickets, but the general rule is—eat and grow thin.

Sleeping well does not mean a fixed hour for every one who is thin. The same amount of sleep is not needed by every one, and each must judge the amount needed for herself. If possible, take time during the day for a half-hour nap. The best time for this is immediately before or just after luncheon.

Eating well does not mean overeating. This is a mistake of most would-be fatteners. Overeating means indigestion, which breeds thinness.

Usually the appetite is the best judge of how much is to be eaten. Unless one is greedy it is hard to tell when enough food has been taken. Frequently a thin person has a delicate appetite, in which case it may be well to take some light refreshment midway between meals. Avoid, beyond everything, the nibbling habit. Candy may be a fattener, but not if eaten incessantly.

## Watch in Left Cuff.

With many of the mannish jackets the stiff linen cuffs are being affected. The latest novelty is a cuff watch, to be inserted as a button in the left cuff just as a stud would be. It is inconspicuous and extremely convenient for the maker has insisted upon the condition that the tiny size will interfere in no way with the reliability as a timekeeper.

To the women who refuse to wear their watches pinned in tempting (to the thief) array at the front, and to the ones who cannot with convenience push one below the belt, this new idea comes as a suggestion. Whether it will be adopted is another question.

**Feast of Rogations.**  
The first promoter of the Feast of Rogations, in France, was the Bishop of Vienna, Dauphiny, in 471. In 511 a council of Orleans ordained that the Feast of Rogations should be generally observed throughout France. In the early centuries of last century, the Rogations were still conducted with great fervor in lower Normandy, Brittany and certain provinces of middle France. During the three days preceding Ascension, before sunrise, the clergy of each parish led processions across country to an appointed meeting place for their congregations, chanting psalms and hymns by the way and after the meeting, a short service and an alfresco breakfast came before the return homeward began.

## Foundation of Drama Found in Easter Myths and Songs

The foundation of all drama is found in the early myths and songs which chronicle the perennial miracle of the return of spring, and the reclothing of the earth in greenery after the bareness and sombreness of winter.

Our name Easter is taken from Scandinavian mythology from the sage of the land of the Norse, where halfbreeds of Balder were lit at sundown and kept burning through the night. The festival of the Norse divinity, called Ostara or Easter, was specially the season of new birth, whence arose the custom of baptizing at Easter.

**Easter Fires.**  
At Easter the hearth-fire was kindled afresh, and in many European countries even now the peasants carry candles to be lit and blessed at the altar, guarding the flame so that from it the home fire might be renewed on Easter morn.

Easter bonfires were kindled on all the hills, since witches were banned so far as an Easter fire shed its light. Around these fires youths and maidens who hoped for marriage during the coming year danced three or nine times, and gave three leaps over the fire. Maypole dances had their origin in the spring rites at Eleusis, in Greece, the rhythmic interlacing circles of figures holding bright-colored ribbons, recalling the measured torchlight dance of Eleusis, the search from side to side for lost Persephone.

**Blessing the Fields.**  
Where once the image of Demeter was borne, that of the Virgin was carried in the middle ages, to bless the fields in Southern Europe at Easter. In Italy, Easter week is still dedicated to the blessing of the farms and country houses, the blossoming rooftop, the young cypresses, the clatena, even the window boxes and seed.

**Easter Egg Hunt.**  
Legends there are in plenty about Easter eggs. One of the prettiest accounts for the custom of Easter egg hunts as being introduced by the Countess Arno of Lindenberg, Germany. During her husband's absence on one of the crusades she was forced to take refuge from his hereditary foe, Hanno of Schroffeneck, in an isolated mountain valley, inhabited only by a few poor charcoal burners.

Here, with her two children and an old and trusted servant, Kuno, she remained hidden during the search which Hanno made for her. When her husband returned and recovered his territory, he traced his wife by means of an egg with an inscription on it in her handwriting. She had had a little Easter festival for the friends of her children among the charcoal burners' families and, not being able to procure fruit, had resorted to the device of coloring hard-boiled eggs for the fête. One of these given to youth, Fridolin, was the means of bringing Count Arno back to his wife and children.

He said, when he thanked the people of the valley where the countess had found her refuge: "I shall establish an annual festival in memory of my wife's stay among such good people. Every Easter, eggs of all varieties of color, shall be distributed among the children."

"And I," said the countess, "will extend this custom throughout our entire dominions, and order that colored eggs shall be similarly distributed there, in memory of my deliverance. And she kept her word. The custom which she instituted spread abroad by degrees to other countries beside her own and is now a generally observed feature of the Easter season, here and elsewhere.

THE PASSERBY.

## Housekeepers' Corner

Smart florists now have a pretty trick of covering the pot with moss when growing flowers are sent as gift. The moss is grown on the earth on surface, and, if watered, will last for some time, making it possible to use a plant in a vase for a centerpiece without a jardiniere or pot cover. The Easteride hostess will welcome this attractive idea.

**Candy as Favors.**  
Another novelty for the table is candy in the form of very realistic looking grapes. The grapes, which are the edible part, are moulded upon an artificial stem, also very natural looking, with green grape leaves attached. Each candy grape is covered with waxed paper, so thin that it is practically invisible. This candy is a perfect dustproof and other wise intact until it is to be eaten. The grapes come in three shades, representing the Malaga, Concord and Catawba varieties. Tied with ribbon in the appropriate shade a bunch of candy grapes is a very attractive centerpiece of each guest, at a woman's luncheon, for instance.

**In Serving Salad.**  
A dainty innovation in serving a sweet fruit salad is that of offering in candied orange baskets. To make these baskets, cut a slice in half and pulp removed. The edges of the skin are then prettily scalloped with scissors and boiled in water until tender. When soft take out carefully with a ladle, add a pound of sugar to a pint of water, return the peel to it, simmer until clear. Strain the liquid, drain over and dry in the sun. Serve in these the salad is completely edible and the peel adds an attractive nut of flavor. Grape fruit may be treated in the same way.

**"Nutrit-Nut" Ice Cream.**  
This dainty is a variation, needed to say, of the fruit. Make the ordinary custard, whipping the cream first, when it has set slightly, add a cup of chopped marshmallows, one cup of milk, pistachios, blanched almonds, English walnuts, all chopped fine. The meat chopper. Flavor with almond extract and vanilla, a half teaspoon of each. Serve in a brick or bon mold with whipped cream around.

**Joquillas.**  
Blow, golden trumpets, sweet and clear.  
Blow soft under the perfumed air;  
Blow the sad earth to join our song  
"To Christ does victory belong!"

Oh, let the winds your message bear  
To every heart of grief and care,  
Sound through the world the world's joy lay,  
"Our Christ has conquered Death today!"

On cloudy wings let glad words fly  
Through the soft blue of echoing sky,  
Ring out, O trumpets, sweet and clear,  
"Through Death immortal Life here!"

MARGARET DELANEY